

\*\*\* VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE \*\*\*

1. (Currently Amended) A method of creating a vinyl sheet product comprising the steps of:

depositing a design material onto a conveyor, said design material in the form of one of drips, streams, chips and pellets deposited so as to not completely cover a top surface of the conveyor where applied;

applying a first vinyl substrate layer of a predetermined height over on the conveyor over the design to create a vinyl sheet product, at least a portion of the design material remaining in contact with the conveyor; and

curing the vinyl sheet product, wherein when the vinyl sheet product is removed from the conveyor, the design material forms an indicia relative to the first vinyl substrate layer.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of applying a scrim to an exposed surface of the first vinyl substrate layer after applying the first vinyl substrate layer.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of applying a second vinyl substrate layer over the scrim.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of depositing the design material further comprises depositing a liquid design material onto the conveyor.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of at least partially curing the liquid design material prior to applying the first vinyl substrate layer.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of applying at least two distinct colors of liquid design material.
7. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the step of depositing the liquid design material further comprises providing a hopper having a plurality of orifices configured to apply the liquid design material from the hopper through the orifices to the conveyor.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the hopper is moved while depositing the liquid design material to the conveyor.
9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the hopper is moved in an laterally reciprocating motion while depositing the material to the conveyor.
10. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of applying a roller having an embossed indicia thereon to the liquid design material prior to applying the first vinyl substrate layer.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of applying a second design material to the exposed upper surface of the first vinyl substrate layer prior to curing the vinyl sheet product, wherein at least a portion of said second design material extends at least planar with the upper surface of the first vinyl substrate layer.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein after applying the second design material, at least a portion of the second design material extends a distance above the upper surface of the first vinyl substrate layer.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of curing the vinyl product further comprises transporting the product through an oven, and further comprising the step of cooling the cured vinyl after the product has left the oven.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a conveyor having at least two different heights thereby imparting a texture to a lower surface of the vinyl sheet product.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of creating a vinyl sheet product comprising the steps of:  
applying a first vinyl substrate layer over a conveyor;  
applying a design material in the form of one of drips, streams, chips and pellets onto an upper exposed surface of the first vinyl substrate layer to create a vinyl sheet product, wherein at least a portion of the design material extends into and at least to the upper surface of the first vinyl substrate layer and does not completely cover the first vinyl substrate layer where applied;  
curing the vinyl sheet product, wherein when the vinyl sheet product is removed from the conveyor, the design material forms an indicia relative to the first vinyl substrate layer.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the first vinyl substrate layer is applied over a second design material previously applied to the conveyor, wherein at least a portion of the

second design material remains in contact with the conveyor until after the vinyl sheet product is cured.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of applying the first vinyl substrate layer over a scrim transported by the conveyor.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the scrim is supported by a second vinyl substrate layer previously applied to the conveyor.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the design material is one of a solid polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene, polypropylene, and a metal.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the design material is applied with a laterally moving applicator.